

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

No amendments are made in this paper. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the claims now in the case.

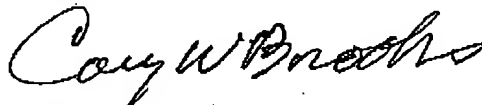
Claims 10-13, 19-34, 40-41 have been withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a non-elected system.

Claims 1-7, 9, 14-18, 35-39 had been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Loffler et al., U.S. Patent Application Pub 2002/0071797. Claim 8 was also rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Loffler et al., U.S. Patent Application Pub 2002/0071797 in view of Lesieur, US Patent No. 6,707,224. Loffler et al., U.S. Patent Application Pub 2002/0071797 was filed on December 13, 2000 and claims the benefit of a provisional application filed on October 6, 2000. The present inventor's application was filed on September 26, 2000. Loffler et al., U.S. Patent Application Pub 2002/0071797 is not prior art to the present invention and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Further, the referenced inventor Lesieur does not match Patent No. 6,707,224. Clarification is requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the claims now in the case.

Respectfully submitted,



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